

THE  
CHICAGO MEDICAL JOURNAL.

---

VOL. XXVI.—MARCH 15, 1869.—No. 6.

---

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

---

*Analysis of Hot Springs, Arkansas.*

MADE BY E. HILLS LARKIN, OF ST. LOUIS, MO., JUNE 1, 1859.

NUMERICAL CONSTITUENTS— $\frac{1}{2}$  PER GALLON.

PERCENTAGE.

Silicie Acid .....	24.74
Seque-Oxide of Iron.....	1.21
Alumna.....	5.15
Lime.....	28.83
Magnesia.....	.73
Chlorine.....	.67
Carbonic Acid .....	21.36
Organic Matter .....	8.31
Water.....	1.72
Sulphuric Acid.....	4.49
Potassa.....	1.46
Soda.....	2.01
Total.....	100.00

To the above analysis, Bromine and Iodine should be added; for in 1859 Dr. David Dale Owen extracted the

solid residue from 2,000 grammes, with alcohol; evaporated this to dryness at a low temperature, and tested it with proto-chloride of palladium. The watery solution was slightly tinged yellowish-brown, indicative of a trace of sodium ; "and," says Dr. Owen, "if larger quantities of the water were operated on, the Iodine and Bromine could, in all probability, be distinctly brought out."

I have noticed, briefly, the constituents of these valuable waters, as given by able minds, and will now as briefly notice their action upon the diseased system :

It has been my province, for the past two years, to treat, with the assistance of these issues, many forms of chronic disease, such as rheumatism, gout, stiff-joints, contraction of the muscles, and skin-diseases as a class; scrofula, enlargement of the glands, general debility, spinal diseases, neuralgia, nervous affections, dyspepsia, nervous and mucous paralysis, in its varied forms, uterine diseases as a class, mercurial, mercurio-syphilitic, and all forms of syphilitic disease. Many diseases, which are too numerous to mention, are likewise benefited by the judicious use of the waters ; but the most marked improvement is shown in rheumatism, gout, skin-diseases, neuralgias, uterine affections, mercurial and syphilitic.

In many cases referred to, their effects are truly astonishing.

The copious diaphoresis which the hot-bath establishes opens in itself a main channel for the expulsion of principles injurious to health, which is made manifest through the pores of the skin, and by the peculiar odor ; it alike arises from the internal use of the water, in a diminished degree. The impression produced by the hot-douche, as is referred to, is indeed powerful, arousing into action sluggish and torpid secretions ; hence the languid circulation is purified of morbid matter; renewed vigor and healthful action are thus given to the absorbents, lymphatics, and to the excretory apparatus, a combined effect which no medicine is capable of accomplishing.

The carbonates of the alkalies and alkaline-earths, by their reaction cannot be without their therapeutic effects, as is shown by observation, over the diseases mentioned.

The chlorides and sulphates, although small, have their effects upon the physical economy.

The exhilarating effects upon the system of the large quantities of free carbonic-acid, which the water contains, proves an auxilliary in sustaining the system during the change of tissue, and of the blood, which is consequent upon their constant and continued use.

In the above diseases tonics and alteratives are demanded; hence the potency of the waters will seem tangible to the minds of the profession, when conjoined with proper treatment and sound advice.

The mild latitude and even temperature of this section of Arkansas make it a truly desirable resort for invalids, throughout the entire year. For the past two years I have watched closely the thermometer, and find, in mid-summer, the hottest day reached only 96° Fahr., while, this winter, our coldest day did not fall below 28° Fahr. (above zero).

Daily stages reach this point from the Capital of the State.

P. N. ELLSWORTH.

HOT SPRINGS, ARK., Feb. 17, 1867.

---

*Cases of Malformation of the Eye and Ear—  
Anophthalmos.*

REPORTED AT A MEETING OF THE CHICAGO MEDICAL SOCIETY.

Dr. Holmes reported two cases of congenital absence of both eyes, which had very recently fallen under his observation. The reporter stated that such cases were exceedingly rare, even in the aggregate experience of oculists.

One of the infants, a female, of German parentage, was born January, 1868. The parents were perfectly healthy,

as also were two other children. They could ascribe no cause for the abnormal condition of their last child.

With the exception of the absence of the eyes, and an abnormally narrow palpebral tissue, the child, as far as could be observed, was strong and perfect. When it was at rest, one could scarcely remark any thing unusual in its appearance. The brows were very full, the cheeks high. The orbits were not large enough to fairly receive the tip of the fore-finger. On passing two probes into either orbit and separating them, the edges of the lids, not more than the fifth of an inch in length, could be seen at the depth of nearly half-an-inch, in the small, conical cavity of the orbit. Between the lids mucous membrane could be seen, but no trace of a globe except in the left orbit, in which was a minute, reddish elevation behind the lids.

The child grew well till July, when it was attacked with cholera infantum, and died after a few weeks.

The second case, also a female, under the care of Dr. H. M. Lyman, presented almost precisely the same appearances. There was, however, a malformation of the nose, in two respects. There was a slight triangular deficiency of the outer wall of the right nostril, near the tip of the nose. The nose was not placed exactly in the median line of the face, but obliquely towards the left side. There was, also, a peculiar ridge extending from the nose obliquely upward and to the left, over the left os frontis. In other respects the child, a first-born, was perfect. The parents, American, could give no cause, even imaginary, of the deformity, *congenital absence of the external meatus*.

Dr. Holmes also reported two cases of congenital absence of the external meatus, which he had observed during the last three weeks.

A girl, eight years and three months old, of German parentage, was brought for advice regarding her hearing.

She was pale, and presented a very peculiar expression of the face, the head being exceedingly thin; the external wall of each orbit being deficient far toward the ear

There was also a deficiency of the orbital border of the superior maxillary bone, of the malar bone and zygoma. The lower jaw was somewhat receding; the teeth were irregular, but not notched. The roof of the mouth was abnormally arched. The right ear presented the following peculiarities: There were, externally, simply the lobe and mere rudiments of the upper portion of the pinna, and of the tragus and anti-tragus. There was not a trace of an external meatus.

The left ear presented precisely the same appearances, although the rudiments of the external ear were somewhat differently arranged.

The patient could understand loud conversation, but was so diffident that it was impossible to determine the distance at which she could hear a watch. The hearing was improved by opening the mouth.

In less than three weeks after this patient consulted Dr. H., a German lithographer, twenty-three years of age, sought advice in reference to his myopia. He remarked during the examination, that he had no right ear. There was the same condition as in the case just described. The pinna, however, was somewhat more extensively developed. The hearing was more deficient than in the preceding case. He could not hear a watch placed over his ear.

Dr. Holmes also reported the case of a little girl, one year old, in which there seems to be a congenital paralysis, or possibly an absence of the levator muscle of each upper lid. The palpebral fissure is abnormally short, the globes themselves being remarkably small. The lids appear almost absolutely closed. No known injury occurred to the child, either at or after its birth. She is healthy and vigorous, with no other peculiarity in her formation. Vision is acute, as shown by the manner in which the child sees and seizes minute objects.

The head is invariably thrown back whenever the child attempts to look at any thing. This seems to cause the lower lid to fall a line or more from the upper lid. As

there is scarcely the slightest motion to the upper lids, it is doubtful how much benefit could be gained by surgical treatment, without danger of inflammations from exposure of the cornea to the action of dust and the atmosphere.

#### EXOPHTHALMOS.

Dr. H. recalled attention to the patient with enormous exophthalmos whom he presented to the society some time since, stating that he now has, under his care, a patient afflicted with the same form of congenital disease.

The eyes were also enormously protruded from the orbit; the right one to such an extent that the lids, though greatly hypertrophied and distended, no longer covered the cornea. The motions of this eye were much impeded; those of the other eye nearly normal.

In consequence of an injury of the right cornea, and long-continued exposure to the atmosphere, the vision was already destroyed. There was great pain in the eye, with sympathetic irritation of the cornea in the other eye, to relieve which symptoms the right eye was extirpated.

The refraction and accommodation of the eyes had always been normal.

After the wound caused by the extirpation healed, the lids remained nearly as prominent as if closed over a normal eye.

The patient stated that his father, brother and sister, were born with the eyes abnormally prominent, although the brother's eyes became especially affected at the age of fifteen. The appearance of the brother's would naturally suggest the thought that they were suffering from Graves' (Basedows') disease. There were, however, no evidences of anaemia, or of disease of the heart or thyroid gland.

CORRESPONDENCE.

---

CINCINNATI, OHIO, March 4, 1869.

MY DEAR DR.:—The past two weeks have witnessed the Commencements of all our Ohio Medical Schools. The classes have not fallen far short of former years (since the war.)

The Cleveland Medical College had 123 students. The number composing the graduating class is not known to me. The Charity Hospital Medical College had about eighty students. I do not know the size of the graduating class in this school.

I am informed, however, that it is proposed to remove this school to Worcester, an interior town of this state, where it will be connected with a university. Professor Feristone, who is the life of the school, resides at Worcester.

The class of Starling Medical College, of Columbus, numbers seventy-five or eighty.

The Commencement exercises of the Cincinnati College of Medicine and Surgery, twenty-fifth session, on Longworth street and Central avenue, were held, Feb. 16th., in the Christian church, on Sixth street near Mound, in the presence of a large assembly of ladies and gentlemen.

The exercises were commenced with prayer by Rev. James Black, and consisted of addresses and the conferring of the degree. Rev. M. Lilenthal, D. D., addressed the graduates and conferred the degree on the following persons:

M. L. Amick, Scipio, Indiana; J. H. Anderson, New Haven, Indiana; E. B. M. Browne, Cincinnati; W. E. Caddy, Baltimore; Sam. W. Craig, Cincinnati; H. B. Denman, Piqua; Hugh Ferguson, Maxville; Edwin G.

Keifer, Fairfield; Charles A. Lynd, Cincinnati; F. P. Martin, New Matamoras; D. B. Mozee, Cordova, Kentucky; M. C. Mercer, Fairfield; H. F. McCullough, Livonia, Indiana; A. J. McIntosh, Armstrong, Illinois; T. McFeely, Newport, Kentucky; J. A. McKinnon, Oak Harbor; B. B. Potter, Roundhead; S. Broztnan, Yellow Springs; S. M. Royer, Williamsburg, Pennsylvania; T. J. Smith, Wakatomica; J. Q. A. Robbins, Abington, Indiana; J. T. Scott, Rutland, Kentucky; A. M. Seatan, Midway; F. Stubberman, Cincinnati; J. M. Stutzman, Yellow Springs; F. M. Thomas, Scott; W. F. Wood, New Bremen; W. H. Yelton, Bradford, Kentucky; Wilson Hobbs.

This school is in a flourishing condition, having, during the past few years, been imbued with new life. Its Prof. of Surgery, Dr. D. S. Young, is completing his work on Military Surgery. The school has, during the year, lost a valuable member, by the resignation of Prof. Carroll.

The Commencement exercises of the Ohio Medical College for the present term, were held at eleven o'clock, March 1st., in the lecture-room of that institution. Beside the class of graduates, there were a great many visitors, among them a number of ladies. The exercises were opened with prayer by Rev. Mr. Gamble, after which diplomas were given to the students, some seventy in number. The congratulatory address was delivered by Judge Wm. Dickson.

It was well received, upon the whole; but the following remark may be accounted for by the well-known disposition of our countrymen to too often become overawed by a visit to foreign climes:

"A French chemist discovers chloroform, and the inquiring genius of a Scotch physician utilizes it in the discovery of its anaesthetic properties."

This statement is calculated to mislead those who are not informed, into the belief that our countrymen have no claims in that direction.

The following are the graduates receiving diplomas:

S. W. Anderson, Henry J. Abbott, John D. Axline, Chas. F. Basford, William E. Burch, Daniel L. Brown, John H. Bruce, Clinton Brown, Joseph R. Ballard, Simon L. B. Blacke, Samuel L. Beeler, A. L. Chenoweth, George B. Crawford, Robt. H. Culbertson, Perry D. Covington, Lawson Drais, Eber G. Dorr, W. Elijah de Courcy, Jesse O. Davy, S. B. Emerson, John B. Graham, John Ford, Elijah W. Ford, John P. Freeland, Douglass H. Harding, Thomas H. Harrison, P. E. Holland, Henry Haacke, Asa B. Isham, William H. Jones, J. S. Kelsey, John E. Markle, J. B. F. Morgan, Dennis F. Moss, J. W. McGinnis, John Mackay, jr., Thomas C. Moore, John G. McVay, Samuel B. Morgan, Nathan T. Noble, Thomas Orr, George B. Orr, T. S. Potter, Lieutellis L. Porter, L. S. Rice, John E. Rickey, Theodore N. Rafferty, Robert G. Redd, William H. Rogers, Henly C. Rutter, John C. Sloan, Wm. G. Smith, N. W. Spring, Oliver H. Saxton, Beverly W. Sullivan, Edwin J. Thorn, William E. Tucker, Waddy Thompson, George F. Thomin, Will W. Vinnedge, Daniel Wilson, J. Owen Wall, John H. Willard, James M. Wood, Jonathan M. Wright, Holmes T. Wilson, Jeff. D. Young, Martin V. Young.

Prof. M. B. Wright, who has for near a quarter of a century been connected with the school as Prof. of Obs., retires. His usefulness and ability as Prof. and Dean will long be remembered.

The complimentary banquet given by the Faculty of the College to the graduates of the session took place at the Walnut-Street House the previous evening. The occasion was one for social enjoyment and intercourse, and was improved by the graduates and their friends.

This banquet and that of the Cincinnati College (which took place on the evening of their Commencement) were attended almost exclusively by the students and members of the faculties. The high tone characterizing these entertainments do credit to the discernment of the managers.

Last, but not least, came the Ninth Annual Commencement Exercises of the Miami Medical College, held in the College building, on Twelfth street, between Elm and Plum streets, March 2d, in the presence of the Faculty and a large number of ladies and gentlemen, the friends of the graduates and students, and of medical education in this city.

The exercises were conducted by Professor George Mendenhall, Dean of the Faculty, and were opened with prayer by Rev. Dr. Burns.

Prof. Mendenhall introduced the graduates in a body to Right Rev. C. P. McIlvaine, Episcopal Bishop and President of the Board of Trustees, who, after a few pertinent remarks, proceeded to confer the degree upon the following graduates:

O. F. Adams, Frankfort; James Anderson, Versailles, Ind.; J. Bowman, Elora, Ill.; L. B. Bitz, Evansville, Ind.; W. P. Baily, Stanford, Ind.; S. A. Craig, Philadelphia, W. Va.; F. G. Cross, Konomia, Canada; J. W. Cline, Eaton; James W. Dawson, Cincinnati; A. W. Bavis, St. John, N. B.; D. W. Estil, Bluffton, Ind.; F. R. Eakins, Wheelersburg; E. A. Eakins, Ironton; E. C. Farquhar, Putnam; W. W. Foley, Indianapolis, Ind.; James F. E. Fanning, Tiffin; H. S. Green, Cardington; Henry Illowy, Cincinnati; Jacob Kindell, Covington; Wade M. Logan, Cincinnati; B. F. Lamb, Richmond, Ind.; V. T. Lindsay, Warsaw, Ky.; L. S. Lambert, Victoria, Ill.; T. M. Lowry, Fort Recovery; D. D. Moore, Spring Valley; W. S. Mendenhall, Zionsville, Ind.; J. Maatin, Caldwell; R. J. Owens, Brookville, Ind.; J. L. Quinn, Eaton; Thomas C. Rogers, Belfast; J. B. Kitchey, Pomeroy; Isaac Redrow, Fayetteville; Hiram Shepard, Newport, Ind.; W. L. Stoneberger, Osborn; W. H. Spilman, Andersonville, Ind.; J. M. Spear, New Vienna; J. H. Smith, Baltimore, Md.; Jas. O. Steele, Robinson, Ill.; S. S. Selvey, Albany, Ind.; S. D. Tomlinson, Bloomingdale, Ind.; Wesley Thompson, Rensalaer, Ind.; T. M. Todp, West Alexander, Penn.; S. B. Sheldon,

Westboro; W. H. Vandusen, Miner's Point, Wis.; Levi Wild, Cincinnati; Geo. A. Way, Graysville.

The Valedictory address of Prof. Clendenin was very good.

The exercises were closed with the apostolic benediction by Dr. Bruns, after which the graduates were invited by the Faculty to the residence of Dr. Richardson, on Eighth street, where an elegant supper was served up and heartily enjoyed by the company, including a number of invited guests, among whom were prominent physicians and non-professional citizens.

The occasion will long be remembered by the numerous friends of the Faculty, and Prof. B. F. Richardson, in particular, whose liberal hospitalities they enjoyed.

At a meeting of the Cincinnati Academy of Medicine, the following officers were elected for 1869.

President, Dr. W. W. Dawson; First Vice President, Dr. W. B. Davis; Second Vice President, Dr. C. S. Muscroft; Secretary, Dr. J. L. Neilson; Treasurer, Dr. S. J. Unzicker; Corresponding Secretary, Dr. E. Stevens; Librarian, Dr. Hiram Smith; Trustees, Drs. J. J. Quinn, R. McIlvaine, and J. P. Walker.

The Commencement exercises of the Ohio Dental College took place last evening, at half past seven o'clock, in the hall of the College. An address was delivered, and the degrees conferred, by Dr. Keely; also, a valedictory address on behalf of the Faculty, by Prof. E. Rives.

It is hoped that the arrangements being made by Prof. P. S. Connor, of this city, chairman of the committee of arrangements for the excursion to the New Orleans meeting of the American Medical Association, will be satisfactory.

Members who attend from the East will be delighted to view the scenery of the Ohio and Mississippi valleys at this (May) season of the year. Besides, after a seventy-two hours' ride by rail the luxury of one of our palatial steamers will be highly appreciated. In this manner the

trip will be made within the means of almost any one who desires to go.

Prof. Connor will issue a circular as soon as definite terms are concluded. It is contemplated that the steamer or steamers will make the round trip from Cairo, Louisville or Cincinnati in twelve or fourteen days, furnishing food and lodging while in port.

S.

---

J. ADAMS ALLEN, M. D.:

DEAR DOCTOR:—Having a case in practice I suppose will interest your numerous readers of THE JOURNAL, I report it in brief.

March 1st.—Was called in council to see a patient supposed to have spotted fever. The patient, twenty-eight years of age, presented the well-marked purple patechiae and ecchymosis of purpura febrilis.

A very peculiar tone of the voice led me to examine the patient very closely, as there was nothing in the purpura to cause alarm. The face was smooth and fair as an ordinary female. But in answer to my question as to whether she had menstruated naturally, she began to cry, and finally requested her attendants to leave us alone. I then proceeded to make a thorough examination of the sexual organs and found the general appearance of the mons veneris natural in appearance except a fullness of the labia on the left side; a rather more than ordinary growth of hair. But a closer inspection revealed a fully developed penis in the place of a female urethra, with its head tied down by the labia above the natural place for the clitoris. On the left side was a fully developed ovary imbedded in the folds of the labia, with no appearance or pretence of a scrotum. The labia and vagina below appeared as in ordinary women until the finger reached in some two inches, when it met a hard, bony substance, which was unresisting, and in shape of the figure 8. Here the sphincter anis and cervixuteri

presented themselves closely connected in an osseous state, both openings being sufficient to admit a finger, but separate and distinct from each other; and both unyielding and inelastic. I introduced a womb sound into the uterus one inch, but it seemed hard, and gave such uneasiness to the patient I ceased further examinations.

There are two remarkable features in this case: 1st. The face of this patient was smooth and fair as any ordinary lady. 2d. There was no outside appearance of anus through the perineum, and the only outlet to the rectum was through the vagina.

The patient had always been healthy, never menstruated, nor ever experienced a feeling of passion. And her sex or condition was not known by any one of the family, being an orphan.

Very Truly Yours,

L. A. BABCOCK, M. D.

FREERePORT, ILL., March 11, 1869.



## PROCEEDINGS OF SOCIETIES.



### *American Medical Association.*

The twentieth annual session will be held in New Orleans, La., May 4, 1869, at 11 A. M.

The following committees are expected to report:—On Diseases of the Cornea, Dr. Jos. S. Hildreth, Illinois, Chairman. On cultivation of the Cinchona Tree, Dr. Lemuel J. Deal, Pennsylvania, Chairman; On Excision of Joints for Injuries, Dr. J. B. Reed, Georgia, Chairman. On the Cryptogamic Origin of Disease with special reference to recent microscopic investigations on that subject, Dr. Edward Curtis, U. S. A., Chairman. On Operations for Hare-lip, Dr. A. Hammer, Missouri, Chairman. On Clinical Thermometry in Diphteria, Dr. Jos. G. Richardson,

New York, Chairman. On Prophylactics in Zymotic Diseases, Dr. Nelson L. North, New York, Chairman. On Inebriate Asylums, Dr. C. H. Nichols, D. C., Chairman. On the Influence of the Pneumogastric Nerve on Spasmodic and Rhythical Movements of the Lungs, Dr. Antisell, D. C., Chairman. To examine into the Present Plan of Organization and Management of the United States Marine Hospitals, Dr. D. W. Bliss, D. C. Chairman. On the Utilization of Sewerage, Dr. Stephen Smith, New York, Chairman. On the Influence of Quarantine in Preventing the Introduction of Disease into the ports of the United States, Dr. Elisha Harris, N. Y., Chairman. On Nurse Training Institutions, Dr. Samuel D. Gross, Pennsylvania, Chairman. On Commissioners to aid in Trials involving Scientific Testimony, Dr. John Ordronaux, N. Y., Chairman. On Annual Medical Register, Dr. John H. Packard, Pennsylvania, Chairman, On Devising a Plan for the Relief of Widows and Orphans of Medical Men, Dr. John H. Griscom, N. Y., Chairman. On Veterinary Colleges, Dr. Thomas Antisell, D. C., Chairman. On Specialties in Medicine, and the Propriety of Specialistists Advertising, Dr. E. Lloyd Howard, Maryland, Chairman. On Library of American Medical Works, Dr. J. M. Toner, D. C., Chairman. On Vaccination, Dr. Henry A. Martin, Massachusetts, Chairman. On the Decomposition of Urea in Uræmic Poisoning, Dr. H. R. Noel, Maryland, Chairman. On the best method of treatment for the different forms of Cleft Palate, Dr. J. R. Whitehead, New York, Chairman. On Rank of Medical Men in the Navy, Dr. N. S. Davis, Illinois, Chairman. On Medical Ethics, Dr. D. Francis Condie, Pennsylvania, Chairman. On American Medical Necrology, Dr. C. C. Cox, Maryland, Chairman. On Medical Education, Dr. J. C. Beeve, Ohio, Chairman. On Medical Literature, Dr. E. Warren, Maryland, Chairman. On Prize Essays, Dr. S. M. Bemiss, Louisiana, Chairman.

On the Climatology and Epidemics of—Maine, Dr. J. C. Weston. New Hampshire, Dr. P. A. Stackpole.

Vermont, Dr. Henry James. Massachusetts, Dr. H. I. Bowditch. Rhode Island, Dr. C. W. Parsons. Connecticut, Dr. E. K. Hunt. New York, Dr. W. F. Thoms. New Jersey, Dr. Ezra M. Hunt. Pennsylvania, Dr. D. F. Condie. Maryland, Dr. O. S. Mahon. Georgia, Dr. Juria Harris. Missouri, Dr. Geo. Engelmann. Alabama, Dr. R. F. Michel. Texas, Dr. T. J. Heard. Illinois, Dr. R. C. Hamill. Indiana, Dr. J. F. Hibbard. District of Columbia, Dr. T. Antisell. Iowa, Dr. J. C. Hughes. Michigan, Dr. Abm. Sager. Ohio, Dr. E. L. Neal. California, Dr. F. W. Hatch. Tennessee, Dr. B. W. Avent. West Virginia, Dr. E. A. Hildreth. Minnesota, Dr. Samuel Willey. Virginia, Dr. W. O. Owen. Delaware, Dr. L. B. Bush. Arkansas, Dr. G. W. Lawrence. Mississippi, Dr. —— Compton. Louisiana, Dr. L. T. Pimm.

Secretaries of all medical organizations are requested to forward lists of their Delegates as soon as elected, to the Permanent Secretary.

Any respectable physician who may desire to attend, but cannot do so as a delegate, may be made a *member by invitation*, upon the recommendation of the Committee of Arrangements.

W. B. ATKINSON.

---

**Delegates to the American Medical Association.**

The undersigned are fully authorized to announce that arrangements have been completed with the proper railroad officers, by which all delegates and members of the American Medical Association who desire to attend the annual meeting in New Orleans on the first Tuesday in May, can go from Chicago, by way of Louisville, Nashville, etc., direct to New Orleans, by paying the ordinary fare (\$35.00) in going, and be returned *free*, with the privilege of stopping over at the Mammoth Cave, in Kentucky, if they choose. Similar arrangements are in progress, with a fair prospect of completion, with all the connecting lines

of rail road at this place and southward. It is confidently expected that such liberal arrangements on the part of the rail road officers will secure a large attendance of members from the North and Northwest.

CHICAGO, March 3d, 1869.

N. S. DAVIS,  
R. C. HAMILL,  
A. FISHER. } Committee.

---

### *Illinois State Medical Society.*

The next annual meeting of the Illinois State Medical Society will be held in the city of Chicago, on the third Tuesday in May, 1869, commencing at 10 o'clock, A. M. All local medical societies are entitled to one delegate for every five members. It is desirable that every county in the State should be represented.

CHICAGO, March 3d, 1869.

N. S. DAVIS, *Perm't Secretary.*

---

### *Carroll County Medical Society.*

The second regular meeting of this society was held in Lanark on the 23d of February, ult.

Dr. John L. Hostetter, President elect, presiding.

Minutes of previous meeting were read and approved.

Dr. N. Stephenson, of Thomson, read a paper on the nature of the action of chloroform as an anæsthetic agent.

This was a very able production and showed that the Doctor has been a very close observer of the action of this article. He advanced some very correct ideas as to its peculiar action in some cases, and gave some very excellent advice as to the mode of administering this agent.

Dr. J. Haller, of Lanark, read a paper on the action of Gelsemium Sempervirens, but modesty will not allow any comment upon our own paper.

Some of the members having been requested to read papers, asked for further time.

There was considerable discussion on some of the ideas set forth in the papers read, which passed off very agreeably to all. This is what we want, viz: Free expression of views, and reports of our experience in these matters. By so doing we will be enabled to combat disease more successfully, and make the practice of our noble profession more pleasant.

Dr. Hostetter not having a paper prepared on Medical Ethics, offered a verbal report, in a few well timed words, to wit: Labor diligently and unitedly for the good of suffering humanity. "In all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them."

The following were requested to read papers at our next meeting, (and also those who did not read at this meeting, are requested to be prepared at our next:)

On Obstetrics, Dr. Jno. L. Hostetter, of Mt. Carroll. On the Etiology and nature of "Shock," Dr. N. Stephenson, of Thomson,

On motion of Dr. J. Haller, it was decided to hold the next meeting of this society in Mt. Carroll, on the second Tuesday of June next, at 10 o'clock, A. M. We hope to see a good attendance at that time. All members of the Press, and Clergymen favorable to a *rational* system of medicine, are invited to meet with us.

JNO. L. HOSTETTER, *Prest.*

J. HALLER, *Sec'y.*

EDITORIAL.

---

*A New Defense for Murder.*

There are perhaps few of our readers who have not been by turns amused, disgusted and wearied at the frequency with which, of late years, the plea of insanity has been urged as an excuse for crime. Nothing appears so suggestive of the existence of insanity previously unsuspected as the perpetration of some outrage upon society, and nothing so refreshing to the memories of witnesses upon the subject of hereditary taints. It behooves the Thugs and cut-throats to overhaul their genealogical registers and to trace, if possible, their relationship to some crack-brained ancestor, some lunatic aunt, or delirious uncle, whose possible bequest of his malady may prove an inestimable treasure: more precious than fine gold, or even fivetwenties; for it may save his (or her) neck from a halter. It becomes a question for the consideration of parents, whether a legacy of delirium tremens or epilepsy be not quite as valuable an inheritance for their children as a life insurance policy. It certainly has affected many times what the latter never has—insured life. But our cousins, the other doctors (of the law) appear to be widening their field of philanthropy. Some individual in haste to get rich, commits a forgery, and he is straightway found guilty—not of crime—but of moral insanity. A woman shoots her lover (or some other woman's) and she is found guilty of menstrual irregularity. Again, a man shoots his employer, and threatens to shoot others, and he is found guilty of epilepsy. We do not discover, however, that any means have been taken to prevent a repetition of these diverting eccentricities of genius, their perpetrators decided by verdicts of juries to be legally irresponsible agents, being still permitted to go at large. And as the class

exempted from legal responsibility threatens to become so large that it cannot by any possibility be expelled from society, would it not be well for the Legislature to provide a sane asylum for the reception and protection of all those who desire neither to kill nor yet to be killed. The abolition of the death penalty is "a consummation most devoutly to be wished," and should be effected just as soon as the assassins set the example.

\* \* \* ILL., March 2, 1869.

EDITOR MEDICAL JOURNAL:

There are "physicians" in Chicago advertising for partners with "a small capital." These "physicians" hold out dazzling inducements to young graduates, alleging that their business brings them several thousands of dollars each year; that the new partner will be received on equal shares, by paying \$1,000 or \$1,500 down. That they are regulars, and are called in consultation with members of Rush College Faculty frequently, etc. Their books are open to inspection, and show a stunning array of cash receipts. Please allow me to say they (the "physicians") are *rascals*, and that any young physicians who pay their money to such men will be swindled. The graduates from Rush are, many of them, seeking openings, and will be drawn to Chicago by these tempting advertisements, and taken in. Most, if not all, of these graduates take your JOURNAL. Dr. \* \* told me I better call your attention to this matter, and ask you to state briefly in your next issue that these advertising men are *swindlers*, and then none of our boys will be defrauded by such pests.

Yours, truly

\* \* \* \*

It is scarcely necessary for THE JOURNAL to say more than has been well said by our correspondent. We have written scores of private letters to parties inquiring of us, denouncing these scamps as they deserve. It is a professional *confidence game*, and richly entitles its practitioners to the penitentiary.

***Location for Practice.***

Dr. E. Hollinsworth, of National, Clayton County, Iowa, will sell his residence, (a fine one) and practice, for \$2,000. He is the only physician in the place, and the field is a good one.

A favorable opportunity may also be heard from by

addressing P. J. Mulvane, M. D., Wyanet, Bureau County, Illinois.

### ***Urethral Sounds.***

Bliss & Sharp, 144 Lake street, furnish a full case (12) with gauge and steel sounds, for \$20. Same, silver-plated, \$26. See their advertisement this number, for answers to further inquiries from correspondents.

### ***Paper Collars.***

A correspondent wishes to be informed through THE JOURNAL whether the profession have noticed that the wearing of paper collars produces sore throat and enlargement of the tonsils? He says: "I find it almost entirely among men and boys who wear them. Is it not the arsenic or some other poison used in glazing them?" We have not the data from which to reply, although aware of a common opinion of this purport, which may, and may not, have some foundation in fact. *Quien sabe?*

### ***Back Volumes.***

A. W. Dewey, M. D., of Cicero, Hamilton County, Indiana, has some twelve or thirteen back volumes of THE JOURNAL which he writes us he is willing to dispose of.

L O O T .

---

*A Practical Point in the Treatment of Throat Diseases.*

BY FREDERICK A. BURRALL, M.D.

"It is often a difficult matter to examine satisfactorily the throats of patients who are lying in bed. The head of the bed may be towards the window, thus placing the patient's mouth away from the light, and the glare of a lamp held before the face is often painful to the eyes of the sick. Sitting up in bed and twisted towards the light is a constrained, and, to a debilitated invalid, an exhausting position; and while a child would be willing to open its mouth, it would often rebel against sitting up for a throat examination. The physician, conscious that his patient is in a fatiguing attitude, hurries his investigations, and sometimes obtains but a perplexing view. These annoyances may be lessened or obviated by the use of a concave mirror, with a focal distance of about twelve inches. Daylight can be reflected into the throat of the patient, while he lies quietly in bed or slightly raised on pillows, and the lamp used for illumination at night can be placed above or at the side of his head. Of course it is well-known that such mirrors are used by those who are constantly treating diseases of the throat, but the object of this article is to recommend them to more general use. Much weariness would thus be spared the sick, and such a mirror is also useful for the examination of any cavity on a day or at night."—*Medical Gazette*.

*The Case of Dr. Earle.*

Our lively contemporary of the *Gazette* thus discourses:

"Tony Weller's impressive warning to his son: 'Samivel, beware of widders,' has received striking corroboration in Chicago, in the experience of Dr. Earle, of that city. His 'captivation' in matrimony some years ago by a female of that description, was followed, according to the custom of the community in which they resided, by a divorce. Not having learned that to make overtures towards reconcilia-

tion to a woman who has injured one, is invariably considered by her as an unpardonable outrage, he imprudently sought to revive her affection; and roused to revenge by this crowning injury, she had him arrested on charges compared with which the wildest imaginings of ‘blood and thunder’ romancists sink into insignificance. Mutilated infant corpses in bureau drawers, or used as fuel in his office grate; smothered wails of infantile anguish issuing from unexpected corners; truculent boasts of his murderous exploits, and gleeful demonstrations of their details; these are some of the items of the tale she tells, and as its consequence Dr. Earle is now in prison. The whole question hinges on the credibility of female testimony, and we think that as a general formula it may be stated that a woman’s veracity is in inverse ratio to her malevolence.”

#### ***Prof. Halford's Treatment of Snake Bites.***

Prof. Halford, of Australia, has instituted a number of experiments on animals, with the view of discovering an agent which would avert the poisonous effects of the bites of venomous snakes. The subject, it is stated (*Lancet*, Jan. 30, 1869), has recently attracted a large amount of attention in that country, owing to the professor having employed his remedy—a solution of ammonia injected into the veins—with success in the case of a man exhibiting all the symptoms of snake poisoning in a dangerous degree. “A man was bitten by a venomous snake which he had taken into his hands, supposing it to be dead. Not long afterwards he became drowsy, and mentioned the occurrence to one of his mates. The latter immediately set about procuring medical assistance, but by the time it arrived the man was comatose, and his lower extremities paralyzed. Galvanism and other usual remedies were applied but without effect. In this extremity, the medical man first called in caused Dr. Halford to be telegraphed for. The case was the first opportunity he had had of applying his new treatment to a human being, and he at first felt some hesitation in resorting to it. An incision, however, was made through the skin, exposing the superficial radial vein, and the point of the syringe being introduced into the vein, the injection (of ammonia) was completed. The beneficial effect was immediate. From an almost pulseless state, and from a stupor verging on death, the patient speedily be-

and he is now reported to be nearly well. Whether the earlier treatment in any way contributed to the cure cannot, perhaps, be certainly known, but there appears to be little doubt—the medical men entertain none—that the case must have ended fatally but for Professor Halford's treatment. We require, of course, some further cases before the merit of the discovery can be determined. Ammonia is not a new remedy for snake bites, but Dr. Halford has the credit, unquestionably, of having applied it in a direct way by injection into the blood, so that its effects should be immediate and general. Its application in this way could only be made safe in skilled hands. The discovery was not fortuitous, but resulted from a consideration of the microscopical alterations which he found taking place in the blood vessels of animals subjected to the snake poison. It is only right to add, however, that the observations of Dr. Fayrer and others have failed to verify the statements made by Dr. Halford on the altered conditions of the blood-corpuscles.\* We learn from a letter which Dr. Halford addressed to the *Melbourne Argus*, that he had previously instituted a series of experiments on the lower animals, and he publishes five of them which he performed on dogs. In four instances the treatment was successful. To carry out the treatment a solution of ammonia—of the strength of one part of strongest liquor ammonia to two parts of distilled water—and an ordinary hypodermic syringe are required. The ammonia is thrown directly, but gradually, into the blood by puncturing any superficial vein, and may be repeated as its beneficial operation ceases."

Three other cases treated by Prof. Halford's plan are quoted in the *Med. Times and Gazette*, Jan. 30, 1869, one of which we will quote, as showing more clearly Prof. Halford's treatment:

"On November 11, a man came under my care, says Dr. Dempster, of Beechworth, for treatment for the bite of a

\* Dr. S. Weir Mitchell, in a note to us, writes: "Dr. Halford's treatment is a perfectly rational means of rousing an enfeebled heart. Ammonia given by the mouth did not seem to me as efficacious as alcohol. Perhaps the latter might be used subdermically, or thrown into a vein with success where speedy effects are desirable. Dr. Halford is himself inclined to abandon the view he formerly held as to the condition of the blood in snake bites. The cause of the haemorrhage after snake bites and of the widely distributed local extravasations, has been explained by me in the *N. Y. Med. Journal*."

blacksnake. He was bitten about 8 A. M., and after several minutes had elapsed he pricked and incised the wound. Before this, however, he felt very giddy. I did not see him for more than an hour afterwards, and treated him in the usual way, with brandy and ammonia, and scarifying the wound and applying ammonia. The man, however, fell into a state of stupor, and when I was called to him at mid-day, we could not rouse him. I therefore injected liq. ammon. fort. into the saphena vein, and also hypodermically. This affected him at once, and after the second injection he woke up, and became sensible; his pupils, which had before been very sluggish, acted well; and his pulse rose from fifty-six to seventy. After this he went on well, with the exception of violent vomiting for twelve hours. He is now (November 15) convalescent, but very weak. I, of course, continued the stimulant treatment, but I certainly attribute the man's recovery to the injection of ammonia, of which I altogether injected about twelve minimis. Professor Halford mentions, with reference to this case, that the liq. ammon. fort. should be diluted before injection in such cases with two or three times its quantity of water, and of this mixture from twenty to thirty drops should be injected into one of the larger veins. The syringe, he adds, should be carefully introduced, so as to give the ammonia a fair chance. He disapproves of merely throwing the injection under the skin, and believes that after the injection of the ammonia there is no necessity for resorting to the use of stimulants. In a matter so important as this, the result of a few more experiments will be looked forward to with great interest by the public generally, as they will no doubt be by the profession."—*Med. News.*

### *Strength of Carbolic Acid Solutions.*

"In view of the fact that carbolic acid is now largely in use in medicine, with a probability that its range of application will be increased, it is well for prescribers to be very careful of the particular preparation they employ. Instances are reported where much damage has been done by the external application of this substance in solution, and we ourselves have seen carbolic acid ordered from the apothecaries, in such a way as to evince plainly the fact of a most blissful ignorance of whether the medicine was a solid or a fluid, or in what proportions it was proper to

use it. Dr. W. T. Channing, of Providence, reports to the Boston *Journal of Chemistry* several cases of serious results, from the use of the concentrated fluid acid, which is dispensed by some under the name of 'solution carbolic acid,' when the prescribers intended only a milder solution, which they had been in the habit of using, but had obtained it from other druggists. Until, therefore, some distinctive nomenclature shall be given to the various preparations of this substance, and some official 'solution' shall be decided upon, physicians cannot be too careful in learning the strength of the solution employed, and it would be advisable to give explicit directions where to procure it."—*Philadelphia Reporter*.

### *Sea-Sickness.*

The following rules are laid down by Prof. Fordyce Barber against Sea-sickness:

1. Have every preparation made at least twenty-four hours before starting, so that the system may not be exhausted by overwork and want of sleep. This direction is particularly important to ladies.
2. Eat as hearty a meal as possible before going on board.
3. Go on board sufficiently early to arrange such things as may be wanted for the first day or two, so that they may be easy of access; then undress and go to bed, before the vessel gets under way. The neglect of this rule by those who are liable to sea-sickness is sure to be regretted.
4. Eat regularly and heartily, but without raising the head for one or two days. In this way the habit of digestion is kept up, the strength is preserved, while the system becomes accustomed to the constant change of equilibrium.
5. On the first night out take some laxative pills, as, for example, two or three of the compound rhubarb pills. Most persons have a tendency to become constipated at sea, although diarrhoea occurs in a certain per centage. Constipation not only results from sea-sickness, but in turn aggravates it. The reason has already been given why cathartics should not be taken before starting. The effervescent lazatives, like the siedlitz, or the solution of the citrate of magnesia, taken in the morning on an empty stomach, are bad in sea-sickness.
6. After having become so far habituated to the sea as to be able to take your meals at the table and go on deck, never think of rising in the morning until you have eaten

something, as a plate of oatmeal porridge or a cup of coffee or tea, with some sea-biscuit or toast. 7. If subsequently, during the voyage, the sea should become unusually rough, go to bed before getting sick.—*Philadelphia Reporter.*

### **Wombless Women.**

(The subjoined is an extract from an article entitled *Surgical Cases, Devon and Exeter Hospital*, found in the last volume of *St. Bartholemew's Reports*.)

That an incapacity for menstruation should consist with female health, is a strange fact. In two of the three following cases of wombless women, the defect was congenital.

CASE 1.—About nine years since, I removed the womb by ligature. In the "Address in Surgery" of 1860, I gave this case very circumstantially. The main facts were, that the patient was twenty-one; that it was her first labor; that she was delivered while standing; that the midwife tugged at the naval string; that the womb was everted; and that she nearly bled to death on the spot. After many months, when she was nearly exhausted by recurring hemorrhage, I tied the womb with Gooch's canulae.

As I was going into the operating room, the nurse, a worthy old woman and a favorite, said, "Please, sir, if you take out her womb, I suppose she can never have her courses again, and if so, what then?" I replied, "Nurse, if I do not take out her womb, she may die before night. If I can I will save her life now. That is my present thought. I cannot look beyond that."

After all manner of perils, she made a thorough recovery. Of course she has never menstruated since, but when I saw her, three years after, she was in good health and good spirits. I know that she was perfectly well several years after that. Her whole aspect is feminine, her complexion is fair and delicate, as it has always been, but in no wise chlorotic. She walks with her young man like any other servant girl; she cares nothing for the loss of her womb, which seems to have produced no other effect, moral or physical, than the cessation of her menses. That is the answer to the nurse's question, 'if so, what then?'

CASE 2.—About four years ago, a very delicate young woman, aged twenty-five, evidently in declining health, came under my charge at the hospital. She told me that she had been left an orphan, (I believe one, at least, of her

parents had died of consumption), that she was delicate, and had not been able to retain her water like stronger girls; but that she had been brought up carefully; was now the mistress of a national school, and had married at twenty-three. She then added that coition had, from the first, been accompanied by pain, which, instead of diminishing, as she expected, had increased, until she could not bear it; and that her urine escaped from her involuntarily. She and her husband, who were reputed to be very worthy young people, and a most attached couple, were greatly distressed, as they well might be. I learnt then, also, that she had never menstruated,

Her prudenda were perfectly natural. About three inches up the vagina there was a sudden narrowing, like a stricture. Its circular edge was soft, and the orifice sufficiently open to admit the finger; but it could have been easily dilated to a greater extent. It exerted a gentle compression.

This was the sphincter, and beyond it was the bladder. There was no trace of a womb.

I told her that sexual intercourse must cease forever. She was much grieved on her husband's account; of whose regard for her she spoke with genuine feeling. I recommended tonics, and she went home.

I heard nothing of her until lately, when she and her husband called on the nurse. They appeared a fond couple still. Her health was restored; and the incontinence of urine not worse than when she was a child.

CASE 3.—I was consulted in the case of a lady's maid, aged forty, who previous to the last six weeks, had enjoyed excellent health. She was a neat little figure, a brunette, must have been pretty, and was young looking for her age. She had a swollen knee, and flying rheumatic pains, for which she could not account, but she was chiefly harrassed by an irritable bladder. Micturition was frequent, scarcely to be restrained, and painful, both at the time and afterwards. She had used a hip-bath and opiate fomentations, with partial relief. I was to ascertain if a urethral wart or a calculus occasioned her distress.

Her urine had always been apt to escape when she coughed, but she had not been subject to leucorrhœa, and she never menstruated.

The external appearance of the genitals had nothing peculiar. The pubes and the labia were natural; the glands

of the clitoris and the nymphæ were fully developed; but I could not find the urethra.

The vagina was such as might be expected in a virgin, except that there was neither transverse rugæ, nor hymen, nor carunculæ, nor fossa navicularis. It opened abruptly, just in front of the perineum. It admitted the finger, which, when it had penetrated somewhat less than three inches, came upon a dimple. This yielded, circularly, on gentle pressure, and the finger entered the bladder. As it was withdrawn, the sphincter closed again. The bladder was not set on obliquely like a womb; but quite at the end of a canal, which was no vagina at all. It was simply a preternatural urethra applied, as in the male, against the rectum. There was not the slightest trace of an os uteri or cervix—neither could any womb or corresponding body be felt from the bowel.

She told me that, some years before, she had been engaged to a young man, who died. Spoke of him, as a woman should, tenderly and regrettfully; but did not affect to represent her love for him as Platonic.

Judging from these cases, the menstrual discharge is not necessary to the health of a woman who has no womb. In the intervals between one pregnancy, or lactation, and another, it would appear that the presence of a womb has a special and accumulating influence on the constitution; and that it is thus the organ which, by its own periodical discharge, affords that relief to the whole frame, of which it has itself created the necessity.

It is the womb alone, and not the whole generative apparatus, or, indeed, any part of it. Looking at their personal appearance, their views, manners and habits, and their womanly, albeit their correct and estimable feeling toward the men they loved, I believe the subjects of the cases 2 and 3 to be real women—saving their wombs. If it be contended that their ovaries may likewise be wanting, I can only reply that in case 1 the generative system was undoubtedly complete, for that woman lost her womb, and nothing else, after bearing a child; and yet she is as healthy, without menstruation, as the two others, who never had a womb."—*Western Med. Jour.*

### ***India-rubber Sponge.***

This seems a very ingeniously contrived substance. It is an artificial sponge, made apparently by filling India-rubber

in a fluid state with bubbles of gas, and then allowing it to harden, the result being a mass of India-rubber as full of holes and pores as a French roll. It is very elastic, will take its fill of water easily, and may be used for many purposes, instead of stiff sponge—as, for instance, in the bath as a flesh-brush, for cleaning paint, windows, etc. But it also seems capable of being made into pads for fracture, hernia, etc., and if so, its lightness, pliability, and elasticity may make it of great service.—*Med. Times and Gazette.*

---

## BOOKS RECEIVED.

---

PATHOLOGICAL PHENOMENA GENERALIZED, by H. BACKUS, Montevallo, Alabama.

The above is the title to a modest looking pamphlet of about sixty pages, in which the author attempts to reduce by induction, all pathological phenomena to the operation of one general law, and deduce them all from one common cause—congestion. The introduction, which comprises about one-fifth of the entire pamphlet, bears the evidence of an extensive acquaintance with the works of the later English metaphysical writers; and indeed, at its conclusion, the author very gracefully acknowledges his indebtedness to Lewis, Mill, and Combe; to the latter, however, he owes but little, and to none of them much, as the pupil is more logical than his masters—the imitator than the models. He modestly intimates an objection which has been urged, that he “an obscure and unlearned man, should hope to succeed with a subject where so many mighty intellects have failed.” He “trusts that some of our readers will reserve this point until we have gone through with what we have to say, remembering that a ‘cripple in the right way will beat a racer in the wrong.’”

As the author is unknown to us, we are not prepared to dispute his claims to the honors of obscurity, for in these days when notoriety is so frequently attained dishonorably, obscurity may not improbably be a criterion of merit. But unlearned he is not. Of this popular characteristic we would deprive him most decidedly, were it not for the fact that he has destroyed the validity of his title thereto by the display of a most extensive and comprehensive acquaintance with standard authors, both American and European, professional, and (apparently) philosophical. The author claims, that as all physical phenomena after having been successfully referred to Supernatural causes, Metaphysical Entities, and finally through the inductive method of Positive Science—the law of gravitation. So also, Pathological Phenomena having passed through identical phases, must eventually be reduced by the same method to the same cause. He claims farther, and justly too, for his

method the advantage, that it proceeds "with cultivated caution from the known to the unknown." He asserts that as we know nothing of vital forces we can predict nothing therefrom; "we cannot reach the unknown through the unknown." He claims for Pressure, which is resolvable into Gravitation, a predominant agency in the production of pathological phenomena, and refers to this cause both Hypertrophy and Dilatation of the heart, which, in their turn, become agents for propagation of the same condition in other organs.

While the author brings to the support of his theory, illustrations drawn from the effects of congestion upon the nervous system, more especially upon its great centres, he is silent as to the influence of the nervous system upon the circulatory in inducing or removing this condition. Having followed him step by step, and believing his propositions well framed and well sustained too, up to the limit of his conclusions, we must at this point express the opinion that he has stopped short of the ultimate fact to which a sufficiently broad generalization of pathological phenomena might have led him. He appears throughout his argument to isolate his field of observation and experiment too completely from its external relations, while asserting the desire to reduce pathological phenomena to the operation of physical forces he takes, we think, too partial and limited a view of their correlations. If his conclusion be admitted, which it must be, that the ultimate factor in his pathological induction, be congestion, the question arises, have we yet reached the utmost limit to which induction can lead us? If not, then comes the further question, what produces congestion? A link must here be supplied to connect this condition with external physical phenomena, and we apprehend that in the modification of the nervous system, both functional and structural, as induced by external agencies, physical or psychical, and reacting upon the circulatory system to facilitate or oppose congestion, his ultimate factor will be found the missing link, which shall prove the last one in the chain of phenomena extending from the operations of external influences to those complex pathological problems which puzzle the best of us so sadly.

We have read this essay with much pleasure and gratification, and commend it as the work of one who not satisfied to know things as they seem, desires that higher knowledge, the "*rerum cognitio per ultimas altissimasque rationes.*"\* The essay, brief as it is, deserves a more extended notice than it is possible to accord to it within the narrow limits at our command, but we feel confident that to those who appreciate logical writing it will prove a benefit, and to those who do not, a benefit yet greater, as their need is greater.

WE HAVE RECEIVED a copy of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Gynæcological Society, of Boston, an organization having for its object the study and advancement of the science whose name it bears. It is the intention of the founders to establish, by the appropriation of two-thirds of its receipts

---

\* *Salvator Tongtorgi, Institutiones Philosophicae. Roma, 1862.*

thereto, a library of works, bearing upon their own specialty. Its officers are: Winslow Lewis, President; Horatio R. Storer, Secretary; George H. Bixley, Treasurer. We are glad to see this tendency to concentration of thought and effort upon the cultivation of special departments of medical science as manifested in the organization of this and kindred societies. It is especially through such agencies that sciences are to be advanced. We wish the Gynæcological Society of Boston all the success that the names of its founders assure for it.

DR. J. M. BIGELOW, of Detroit, sends us a treatise upon *Svapnia*, or purified Opium, for which he claims certain advantages over the crude drug or any of its ordinary preparations; such as uniformity of composition, and hence of therapeutic effect and freedom from some of the irritant effect upon the nervous system so frequently consecutive to the use of opium, and in many cases entirely contra-indicating the use of this "great boon to humanity." It is very desirable that the less commonly known alkaloids of this drug—*Codeia*, *Thebaia* and *Narcia*, should be made more accessible to the practitioner than at present. The known therapeutic action of the latter principles especially rendering it a most desirable agent in the treatment of a large class of pathological conditions of the nervous centres to which the other alkaloids and the crude drug itself are entirely inapplicable.

ON THE IDENTITY OF THE WHITE CORPUSCLES OF THE BLOOD  
WITH THE SALIVARY PUS AND MUCOUS CORPUSCLES. By  
JOSEPH G. RICHARDSON, M. D., formerly Resident Physician at the  
Pennsylvania Hospital.

Dr. Richardson, already quite well known to the profession as a Micrograph, presents in this paper his conclusions, summarized in the title, from observations made with a 1-25 objective (of Wales) upon these corpuscles and corroborating the conclusions of Cohnheim (first published in America in THE JOURNAL of Oct. 15, 1868), regarding the amaboid movements of the white corpuscles of the blood and their mode of exit through the walls of the vessels, claims priority in the discovery of their identity. The subject is full of interest, embracing a wide field for scientific investigation, and promising important data for practical deduction, and if the author's conclusions be not absolutely correct, they are, to say the least, deserving of critical examination by microscopic and physiological experts. It is by the aid of the microscope exercised in the field of histology, and by organic chemistry, that we must hope to unravel the more intricate physiological processes, without a correct appreciation of which we must be content to read the signs of disease as "through a glass darkly."

A HISTORY OF THE MEDICAL DEPARTMENT OF THE UNIVERSITY  
OF PENNSYLVANIA, from its foundation in 1765, with Sketches of the  
Lives of Deceased Professors. By JOSEPH CARSON, M. D., Prof. of  
Materia Medica and Pharmacy in the University of Pa.; Member of the  
American Philosophical Society, etc. Price \$3.00. Lindsay & Blakiston.  
1869. Philadelphia.

PENNSYLVANIA HOSPITAL REPORTS, Vol. 2., 1869. Price \$5.00.  
*Lindsay & Blakiston.* Philadelphia.

TREATISE ON THE DISEASES OF THE EAR, including the Anatomy of the organ. By ANTON VON TROLSCH, M. D., Prof. in the University of Wurzburg, Bavaria. Translated and edited by D. B. ST. JOHN ROOSA, M. A., M. D., Clinical Prof. of the Diseases of the Eye and Ear, in the University of New York, Surgeon to the Brooklyn Eye and Ear Hospital, formerly Surgeon to the New York Eye and Ear infirmary, etc. Second American from the Fourth German edition. Price \$4.50. *Wm. Wood & Co., New York.* 1869.

A TREATISE ON THE DISEASES OF INFANCY AND CHILDHOOD. By J. LEWIS SMITH, M. D., Curator to the Nursery and Child's Hospital, New York, Physician to the Infants' Hospital, Ward's Island, Professor in Bellevue Hospital Medical College, New York.

SYPHILIS AND LOCAL CONTAGIOUS DISORDERS. By BERKELEY HILL, M. D. London, F. R. C. S., Assistant Surgeon to University College Hospital; Teacher of the Use of Surgical Apparatus in University College, and Surgeon to Out Patients at the Lock Hospitals. *Henry C. Lea.* Philadelphia. 1869.

THE PART TAKEN BY NATURE AND TIME IN THE CURE OF DISEASES. A Dissertation for which a Prize was awarded to JAMES F. HIBBERD, M. D., by the Massachusetts Medical Society. 1868. Boston: *David Clapp & Son,* 334 Washington St. From the author.

### *Errata.*

In Dr. Wallihan's article on Super-Oxygenation, commenced in the number for February 15th, page 117, instead of "late investigations," read "later investigations."

Page 119, for "permanently Nature's own," read "pre-eminently," etc.

Page 140, in the sentence "Sprague, of Boston," etc., insert "out" after "brought," and omit "polished;" and before "Protoxide of nitrogen" read "2" instead of "1".

Page 141, for "neutralizing" read "neutralize."

Page 143, insert "as" before "unfit," and read "experimenters" instead of "experimenter."

Page 145, for "attractive, antiseptic," etc., read "alternative, antiseptic," etc.

Page 146, for "varo gas" read "raw gas."

Page 148, for "usual complication" read "renal complication."

Page 150, Case 4, read "feeble pulse and weak digestion" instead of "feeble and weak digestion."